

# **FEDERAL INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REVITALIZATION PROJECTS REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS**

*Recognition of our role as a major stakeholder, ensured our participation in the planning, decision-making, and implementation process.... Through initial support from federal agencies, funds were leveraged from the private sector to support project activities.*

*Harold Mitchell, ReGenesis, Spartanburg, SC*

The Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (IWG) is soliciting a second round of nominations for collaborative partnerships working to address local environmental justice concerns. The following information outlines the goals, guidelines, and nomination procedures for IWG Environmental Justice Revitalization Projects.

**What are the main goals of the IWG Environmental Justice Revitalization Projects:** (1) To support and encourage better leveraging of existing federal resources in supporting local efforts to address environmental justice concerns, (2) To support strong potential partnerships, and (3) To identify the “best practices” of effective collaborative partnerships for communities, governmental agencies, and other stakeholders working on solutions to environmental justice issues facing communities.

**What are the benefits of being designated an IWG Environmental Justice Revitalization Project:** Selection is not accompanied by any specific funding commitment from any federal agency; however, selection will bring the project national exposure and recognition, provide greater access to resources from various stakeholders, and promote the project as a model for future collaborative partnerships.

**Who may apply to be an IWG Environmental Justice Revitalization Project:** Any organization or group of organizations involved in collaborative multi-stakeholder partnerships to address local environmental justice concerns. These organizations include community-based organizations, non-profit organizations, academia, business and industry, faith-based organizations, and other interested groups, and all levels of government (federal, state, local or tribal). Each project must serve a minority, low-income, or tribal community and address one or more environmental justice concerns. Each project must include at least two federal agencies and a mix of other stakeholder partners.

**How does one apply to be an IWG Environmental Justice Revitalization Project:** Submit a proposal of approximately 10 pages in length, describing community based environmental justice issue(s) and how a project, through a community-based process that includes a multi-stakeholder partnership will address them. Proposal should include description of community vision, implementation approaches and work plan, roles and commitments of partners, and the project’s expected benefits—including its contribution to community revitalization. Proposals should describe to what extent the project includes the following elements:

1. Community-based Leadership Formation and Issue Identification.
2. Capacity- and Partnership-Building in Multi-Stakeholder Process.
3. Supportive and Facilitative Role of Government.
4. Strategic Planning and Community Vision.
5. Sound Implementation.
6. Identification of Lesson Learned and Replication of Best Practices.

**How can I get information and/or assistance about preparing a nomination:** Detailed instructions are provided in the IWG Environmental Justice Revitalization Project Request for Nominations Announcement (IWGDP-02), available through the EPA Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ). Federal Agency Environmental Justice Coordinators and IWG Representatives also can provide assistance. Information can be obtained from Delta Valente, OEJ, 202-564-2594, [valente.delta@epa.gov](mailto:valente.delta@epa.gov). The OEJ Website is <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/recent/ej.html>.

**Where and when should nominations be submitted:** Nominations must be submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and **postmarked** no later than midnight Friday, August 16, 2002.